Fiscal Estimate - 2003 Session

X	Original		Updated		Corrected		Supplemental
LRB	Number	03-1860/1		Intro	duction Numbe	er S	B-213
Subject Tax de		ompensation pa	id to an employee				
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives DOR 7/23/2003

LRB Number 03-	-1860/1	Introduction Number	SB-213	Estimate Type	Original					
Subject										
Tax deduction for compensation paid to an employee										

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Under current law, a corporation may deduct compensation paid to employees and officers from its income subject to tax. The deduction for compensation paid to chief executive officers and four other highest compensated officers of publicly held corporations is limited to \$1,000,000. This limit includes any form of compensation, including benefits, but not including certain commissions or performance-based compensation approved by the board of directors.

This bill would limit the amount of the deduction for wages, salaries, commissions and bonuses paid to employees and officers to 25 times the salary of the lowest paid full-time employee.

The Department does not have data to estimate the fiscal effect of this proposal. However, this bill would increase state corporate income and franchise tax revenues because net income subject to tax would increase. It is believed that the fiscal effect could be in the tens of millions of dollars.

To illustrate the potential fiscal effect of the change, if the lowest paid full-time employee earned \$15,000 annually, the maximum corporate deduction for any employee or officer would be limited to \$375,000 ($$15,000 \times 25$), regardless of their actual wages and salaries. If the president of the same corporation earned \$800,000 per year, annual corporate franchise and income tax revenues would increase by \$33,575 ($$800,000 - $375,000 \times 7.9\%$) because of the increased income subject to tax. If only 100 employees were in this situation, tax revenues would increase by \$3.3 million annually.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications